

LOPHIUS PISCATORIUS.

CHARACTER GENERICUS.

Pinnae pectorales articulationem cubitalem efformantes.

Bloch. ichtb. 3. p. 73.

CHARACTER SPECIFICUS, &c.

LOPHIUS capite corpore latiore.

Bloch ichtb. 3. p. 74. t. 87.

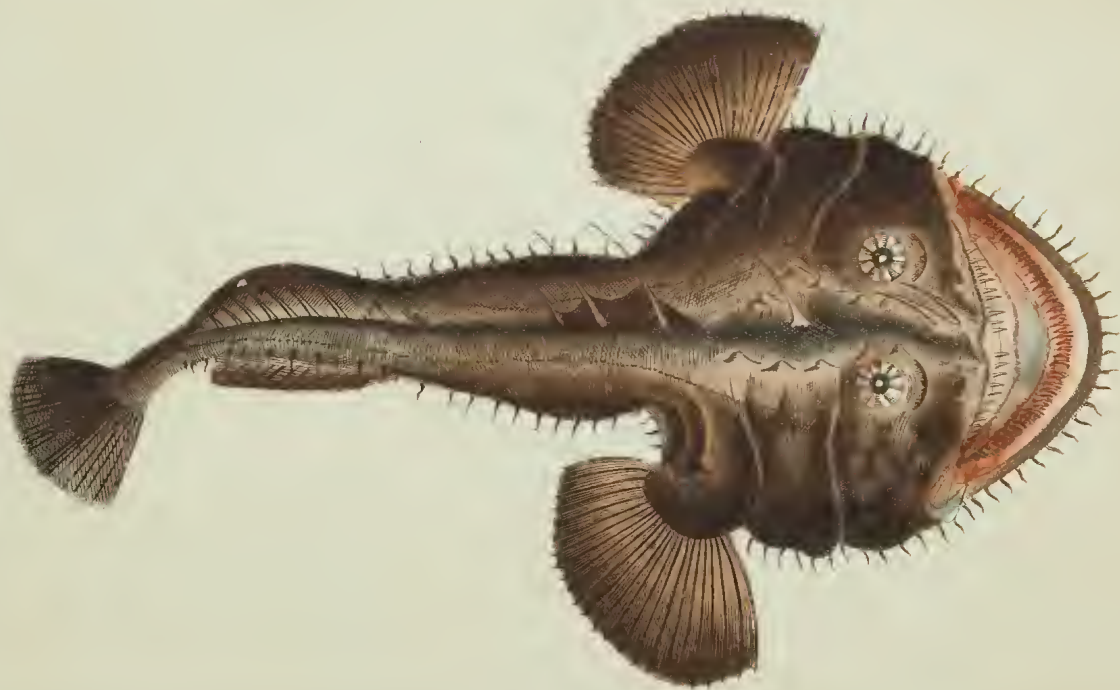
LOPHIUS depressus, capite rotundato.

Lin. Syst. Nat. p. 402.

Rana piscatrix.

Charl. onom. 199.

Pisces describere pergimus non immerito in Naturæ miraculis habitum, captum nonnunquam in oris Britannicis, longum interdum sex vel etiam septem pedes. Margines capitis corporisque serie cuticularum fimbriatarum, æquis intervallis a se invicem dispositarum, instruuntur. In capitis antica parte supra oculos sita sunt longa quasi tentacula, seu fila, quorum motu, dum prædæ insidians animal sub arena latitat, creditur pisces minores ad se alligere, qui vermium similitudine decepti ad Lophium appropinquantes facile capiuntur.



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THE
EUROPEAN FROGFISH.



GENERIC CHARACTER.

Pectoral Fins forming an elbow-like joint.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER, &c.

Depressed LOPHIUS, with the head wider than the body.

Common Angler.

Pennant Brit. Zool. 4. p. 105. pl. 18.

The Frogfish, Fishing Frog, or Sea-Devil.

This most singular fish is occasionally taken about the British coasts, and has been sometimes seen of the length of six or seven feet. Its general color is a dusky brown above, and pale or whitish beneath: the edges of the head and body are surrounded by a multitude of short, fringed skins or processes, placed at equal distances from each other: on the fore part of the head, above the eyes, are situated certain long tentacula or filaments; and it is imagined that by the assistance of these, while it is lying imbedded in the sand, waiting for its prey, it induces the smaller fish to approach, which, being deceived by the similitude, mistake the tentacula for worms, and are thus readily seized by the Frogfish.